

Texas Crop Weather

Released: August 1, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CDT)
For the week of July 25 - 31, 2005
TX-CW3105

1-800-626-3142
www.nass.usda.gov/tx

Crop Progress Table - July 31, 2005

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
- Percent -			
Corn			
Silked	94	95	96
Dough	74	70	75
Dented	63	62	61
Mature	59	44	50
Harvested	19	9	20
Cotton			
Squaring	90	91	92
Setting Bolls	56	61	64
Bolls Opening	13	12	13
Harvested	2	1	2
Peanuts			
Pegging	91	87	86
Rice			
Headed	88	78	92
Harvested	4	2	10
Sorghum			
Headed	67	69	69
Turning Color	49	49	51
Mature	44	42	43
Harvested	39	35	35

Crop Condition Table - July 31, 2005

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
- Percent -					
Corn	9	33	26	20	12
Cotton	8	39	34	13	6
Peanuts	19	49	25	5	2
Rice	18	52	26	4	0
Sorghum	9	38	34	12	7
Soybeans	1	26	39	25	9
Range & Pasture ...	2	23	38	24	13

Agricultural Summary: Weather conditions across many portions of the state were somewhat improved during the week as the result of a cool front that pushed south in mid week. Rainfall amounts were varied and scattered. Some locations received as much as six to seven inches of rain. Hail was reported in a few locations, and some crops were damaged. Crops in the path of these rains received much needed benefit, however range and pastures will benefit the most. In areas where rainfall was received from hurricane Emily, green-up in pastures was already noticeable. A few locations received enough rainfall to replenish water for livestock use. Elsewhere, conditions remained generally dry, and crops and pastures continued to show signs of extreme moisture stress. Some crop abandonment continued in various areas, but was more limited than in previous weeks. Irrigation efforts remained active and some reports were received as to difficulties in keeping up with irrigation demands in several locations. Supplemental feeding continued in many areas. In locations where recent rains fell, pasture green-up was not sufficient to sustain livestock herds at this time. Herd reduction continued, but at a slower pace as producers were cautious about future chances of rain. Range and pasture fires continued to be common in drier locations; however burn bans were lifted temporarily in some areas as the result of recent rains.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Land preparation continued, however stalled in a few locations due to heavy rainfall, especially across areas of the Plains and portions of North Texas.

Corn: Growth and development remained good in locations where irrigation was possible. Some producers continued to have trouble keeping up with water demands as temperatures remained high along with steady winds. Some damage was reported from high winds resulting from thunderstorm activities during mid week. Insect activity was building in a few locations. Dryland corn remained stressed in many areas across the state. Harvest was underway in South, South Central and Coastal Bend locations. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 61 percent of normal, compared with 95 percent last year.

Cotton: Irrigation remained active in many areas. Scattered showers and a few heavy rains occurred across several areas of the Plains and North Texas. Some damage was received as the result of thunderstorms in a few locations. Boll weevil pressure was high in a few areas, and eradication efforts were in full swing. In areas that remained dry, some dryland cotton was wilting down during the heat of the day. Harvest was resuming after the effects of hurricane Emily in southern locations. Applications of defoliation chemicals continued in areas where harvest was near. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 68 percent of normal compared with 81 percent last year.

Sorghum: Several areas received rains from thunderstorm activity during the week, especially areas of the Plains and North Texas. A few locations received damage from high winds and hail. In areas that remained dry, sorghum remained under stress. Baling continued in some of the driest locations. Further south, harvest resumed after delays caused by hurricane Emily. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 68 percent of normal, compared with 83 percent last year.

Peanuts: Irrigation remained active in all areas. Some peanuts across the Plains and a few other areas received showers during the week, however some areas remained dry and dryland peanuts in these areas were wilting down during the day and undergoing severe stress. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 81 percent of normal, compared with 93 percent last year.

Soybeans: Soybeans continued to progress well under irrigation, however dryland fields in many areas continued to experience lack of moisture, and some were wilting down during the day. A few areas received rains during the week and improvement was noticed. Statewide, soybean condition was rated at 55 percent of normal.

Rice: Growth and development continued in all rice growing areas. Dry down was beginning in a few locations as harvest was underway. Insect problems remained light. Statewide, rice condition was rated at 83 percent of normal, compared with 81 percent last year.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, land preparation was active as fall planting will begin soon.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, showers occurred over many locations during the week. Land preparation and harvest continued to be active in a few locations.

In **East Texas**, onion, squash and sweet potato harvest remained active in a few locations. A few areas received scattered rain showers during the week and slight improvements were noticed. Insect and fungus pressure continued to increase in many locations and treatment was ongoing.

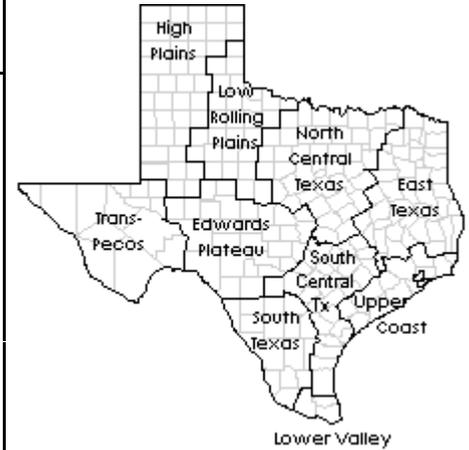
Pecans: Spraying for pecan nut casebearer and web worms remained active in many areas. Irrigation continued in all areas where possible. Nut drop was reported as minimal in most areas.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Thundershowers were reported over many areas during the week. Pasture improvement in these areas was noticed, but it will take a while to fully recover. Other areas remained dry and pasture conditions remained under severe stress. Runoff was sufficient in many areas where rains fell, however other areas received little to none and water shortages continued. Supplemental feeding remained necessary for many producers and herd reduction continued in a few locations. Haying operations resumed in a few locations after drying out became sufficient. In other areas that have remained dry, some producers were short of hay reserves and prospects for the short term were still bleak. Insect activity was on the increase in a few areas where large numbers of grasshoppers and some army worms were reported. The threat of range fires remained high in several areas as the dry trend continued.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Jul 25 - 31) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Jul 1 - 31) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Jul 31) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Apr - Jun) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.56	1.87	10.46	18.87	73
Low Rolling Plains	0.30	1.92	10.67	23.78	54
North Central Texas	0.39	1.98	12.72	34.00	37
East Texas	0.01	2.76	16.72	45.69	34
Trans Pecos	1.19	1.63	6.68	12.96	93
Edwards Plateau	1.03	2.46	12.02	24.01	65
South Central Texas	0.29	2.19	13.22	34.48	38
Upper Coast	1.39	7.62	25.89	47.63	64
South Texas	0.38	2.64	9.10	23.49	29
Lower Valley	0.26	3.14	6.05	25.34	18



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - July 31, 2005 *

Condition	1-N	1-S	2-N	2-S	3	4	5-N	5-S	6	7	8-N	8-S	9	10-N	10-S
	Percent of Acreage														
Very Short	16	3	24	10	18	38	25	23	17	10	17	0	1	12	0
Short	44	41	47	44	58	43	54	43	29	58	31	8	5	26	50
Adequate	40	49	29	45	24	18	20	34	45	30	50	92	75	57	43
Surplus	0	7	0	1	0	1	1	0	9	2	2	0	19	5	7

* High Plains: 1-N, 1-S; Low Rolling Plains: 2-N, 2-S; North Central Plains: 3, 4; East Texas: 5-N, 5-S. Trans-Pecos: 6; Edwards Plateau: 7; South Central Texas: 8-N, 8-S; Upper Coast: 9; South Texas: 10-N; Lower Valley: 10-S.

Cooperating Agencies:

Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas Department of Agriculture, National Weather Service.

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